

## Sancroft Benefice service rotas

Wk 1	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	G	9.30am	Online	
Trinity 17 <i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i> <i>Matthew 21:33-46</i>			10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
Wk 2	11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	G	9.30am	Online	
Trinity 18 <i>Philippians 4:1-9</i> <i>Matthew 22:1-14</i>			10.30am	Mendham	Holy Communion
Wk 3	18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	R	9.30am	Online	
Luke the Evangelist <i>2 Timothy 4:5-17</i> <i>Luke 10:1-9</i>			10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
Wk 4	25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	G	9.00am	Metfield	Holy Communion
Bible Sunday <i>Colossians 3:12-17</i> <i>Matthew 24:30-35</i>			10.30am	Fressingfield	family@church
Wk 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	GR	9.30am	Online	
All Saints' Day <i>1 John 3:1-3</i> <i>Matthew 5:1-12</i>			10.30am	Fressingfield	Holy Communion
			4.30pm	Weybread	All Souls' Memorial
Wk 2	8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	GR	9.30am	Online	
Remembrance Sunday			10.45am	Mendham, Metfield, Weybread, Fressingfield and Stradbroke	Acts of Remembrance outside – only wreath layers
			5.00pm	Online	Eve Prayer / Remembrance
Wk 3	15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	GR	9.30am	Online	
2 <sup>nd</sup> before Advent <i>1 Thessalonians 5:1-11</i> <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>			10.30am	Stradbroke	Holy Communion
Wk 4	22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	W	9.00am	Metfield	Holy Communion
Christ the King <i>Ephesians 1:15-23</i> <i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>			10.30am	Fressingfield	family@church
Wk 5	29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	P	9.30am	Online	
Advent Sunday <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>			10.30am	Weybread	Holy Communion

Rev'd Susan is away 25th to 28th October



Sancroft Benefice Churches

[www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org)

comprising the parishes of  
Fressingfield, Metfield,  
Mendham, Stradbroke,  
Weybread, Withersdale



## October/November 2020 news

### From the rector.....

The last 6 months have been a challenge, frustrating, difficult along with much sadness but, there have been many positives for many people; spending more time with families (has been challenging at times too) but many parents have enjoyed time with children, not having to rush around etc.

It has been a learning curve – who knew that many of us would be attending services online and finding ourselves lost in worship in this unfamiliar medium? Lots of people have been joining morning or evening prayer either with our benefice, the cathedral or somewhere else, and it seems to me, talking to people, that many of us have grown spiritually in part because we have had more time to connect with ourselves and God – silence and solitude is often the place where we do this best.

Listening to the government today, it seems we are going to live with restrictions for another 6 months; if this causes you worry please get in touch, I may not have the answer but I know a man who does!! God does not promise to take his people out of difficult situations but he does promise to be with us in it, so don't suffer alone, speak to one of the ministry team or someone else you trust. I have heard the government say that we're in this together and, as Christians, we definitely are in this together, serving God and our communities, the best we can.

Worship and Church look very different at the moment but don't despair, there are plenty of ways of connecting with others – even Alexa plays Christian worship now!!

A reminder of what the psalmist said, *I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!* (Psalm 27:13,14) **God bless, Rev'd Susan**

## Returning to church services...

We will be adhering to strict government guidelines of social distancing, hand sanitising and mask wearing. We will also ask you for your names as you come into church, to be able to track and trace. The new guidelines make it compulsory to supply it.



**Our curate, Rev'd Gini, was ordained as a priest on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept!**  
Congratulations Gini! She says thank you to everyone for their cards, flowers, best wishes and the cheque from the benefice. We look forward to her ministering with us for the next 2 years.

### Church wardens

Fressingfield	Anne Pickstock on 01379 586493, Philip Eastgate on 01379 586196
Mendham	Contact Erika Clarke on 01379 853014
Metfield	Contact Rev'd Susan on 01379 388493
Stradbroke	Peter Chetwynd on 01379 384069, Karen Ruth on 01379 388762
Weybread	Paula Robinson on 01379 852110
Withersdale	Contact Rev'd Susan on 01379 388493

## Church is more than a building.....

....with online Sunday services on Zoom at 9.30am most weeks.

Also Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays Morning prayer at 10am.....live on facebook - Sancroft Benefice churches, and accessible on our website afterwards on [www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org)

To join our Zoom calls, email Rev'd Susan on [revloxton@gmail.com](mailto:revloxton@gmail.com) and she will send you the links / service sheets for the Sunday service. If anyone would like a hard copy of the service, please let Susan know and she will make sure you get one.

## Sunday 4th Oct - Harvest Thanksgiving – from farm to fork!

This year we will be offering a Harvest Thanksgiving online on Zoom at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome to join in, giving thanks for our food; the growers, the harvesters, the deliverers and everyone in between. We will also be enjoying artwork from our primary schools during the service and on our website:

[www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org). If you would like to join us, once again, please contact [revloxton@gmail.com](mailto:revloxton@gmail.com) and Rev'd Susan will send you the link. You may like to donate to the Waveney Foodbank online <https://waveney.foodbank.org.uk> or take donations to Matterdale, New Street, Fressingfield or your local Foodbank collection point.

## Mon 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Nov

**The Big Story continues.** Join us to find out about more about the bible in a fortnightly Zoom meeting, open to all. Whether you know a lot, a little or nothing – everyone welcome. Meetings will be at 7pm. Details of how to join will be on our facebook page and website.

## Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct

A special deanery synod Zoom meeting, to discuss merging the Hoxne and Hartismere deaneries and to feed back questions or observations about focal ministry (as discussed with Bishop Mike last time). Zoom meeting details to be advertised later. Open to all.

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

**All Souls' Memorial and Thanksgiving Service**, 4.30pm at Weybread.

## Announcing online giving

Not having services (and so no offerings) is hitting us hard. **However, you can now give online.** Visit your church on **A Church Near You** website and click on the **Donate online** button, choose your amount and it will take you through to the payment section. Or, visit [www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org) and on the front page you will see the links.

## The churches are now open for private prayer.....

Tuesdays - **Weybread**, 10am-12noon

Weds - **Metfield**, 10am-12noon  
**Stradbroke**, 10am-12noon  
**Mendham**, 10am-4pm

Thursdays - **Fressingfield**, 2pm-4pm



**Remembrance Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov**

We will not be able to hold Remembrance services inside our churches this year because of social distancing restrictions. However, there will be acts of remembrance outside at the war memorials but only to be attended by those laying wreaths, sadly. On Weds 11<sup>th</sup> November at Stradbroke church, there will be the opportunity to pin memories of someone who has died on display boards - photos, poems etc, 10am to 2pm. **We will remember them!**

## Doing your Christmas shopping online

can benefit Sancroft Benefice with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to you! Simply sign up and remember to use it whenever you shop online. (There is a short cut activate donation button to help). It's easy and completely FREE! Donations mount up, so please sign up to support us at [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sancroftbeneficechurches/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=en-n1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sancroftbeneficechurches/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-n1)

## Keep in touch with what's on.....

[www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org](http://www.sancroftbeneficechurches.org)

## Benefice news

Paper copies in the churches or by email – [sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sancroftbeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

## Benefice facebook pages:

\*[Sancroft benefice churches](#).

\*Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich.